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HOUSE BILL 608

**47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005**

INTRODUCED BY

Mimi Stewart

AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE; PROVIDING FOR HEALTH CARE  
ACCOUNTABILITY; REQUIRING COLLECTION AND REPORTING OF EMPLOYER  
IDENTIFICATION FROM APPLICANTS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH BENEFITS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. A new section of the Public Assistance Act is  
enacted to read:

"[NEW MATERIAL] EMPLOYER INFORMATION REQUIRED ON  
APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH BENEFITS.--The department shall  
require an applicant for public health benefits to identify an  
applicant's employer or employers. In the event the applicant  
is unemployed, the applicant shall identify the employer of any  
other person who may be responsible for providing all or some  
of the applicant's support. For purposes of this section,  
"applicant" includes a person on whose behalf benefits are

.153608.1

underscoring material = new  
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1 requested."

2 Section 2. A new section of the Public Assistance Act is  
3 enacted to read:

4 "[NEW MATERIAL] REPORT REQUIRED.--The department shall  
5 submit a report by November 1, 2006 and annually thereafter to  
6 the interim legislative welfare reform oversight committee  
7 listing the names of employers who employ twenty-five or more  
8 applicants for public health benefits. In determining whether  
9 the twenty-five-employee threshold is met, the department shall  
10 include all applicants employed by the employer and its  
11 subsidiaries at all locations within the state. The report:

12 A. shall include the following from each employer  
13 or its subsidiary that employs an applicant:

14 (1) the location of employment;

15 (2) the total number of employees and  
16 dependents receiving assistance; and

17 (3) the total cost to the state of providing  
18 the public assistance;

19 B. shall not include the names of the employees;

20 and

21 C. shall be made available to the general public."

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